

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, along with their current status, is set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A data entry device comprising:
a key having a first data entry value associated with depressing the key;
the key having one or more additional discrete data entry values, each of the one or more additional discrete data entry values being associated with deflecting the key in a predetermined direction;
the key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value and each of the one or more additional discrete data entry values; and
where the key is adapted for being depressed or deflected by a human fingertip.
2. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the first data entry value is a numeric data value and the one or more additional discrete data entry values are alphabetic data values.
3. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the one or more additional discrete data entry values are each associated with a predetermined zone around a periphery of the key.

4. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the one or more additional discrete data entry values are each associated with an adjustable zone around a periphery of the key.

5. (original) The data entry device of claim 4 further comprising a controllable display around the periphery of the key.

6. (original) The data entry device of claim 5 wherein the controllable display is an LCD.

7. (original) The data entry device of claim 3 wherein the number of predetermined zones is user selectable.

8. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is square in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four.

9. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is circular in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four, six, or eight.

10. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is hexagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are six.

11. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is octagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are eight.
12. (previously presented) A data entry device comprising:
a plurality of keys, each key having a first data entry value associated with depressing the key;
each key having one or more additional discrete data entry values associated with deflecting the key in a predetermined direction; and
each key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value and each of the one or more additional discrete data entry values.
13. (currently amended) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys comprise is a 12-key telephone numeric keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values are alphabetic data values.
14. (original) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a three-key watch keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values are numeric data values.
15. (original) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a three-key handheld computer keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values are representative of a QWERTY keyboard.
- 16-20. (canceled).

21. (previously presented) A method of programming a programmable data entry device, the data entry device having at least one hardware key capable of being depressed and actuated in at least one additional predetermined direction, wherein a first discrete data entry value corresponds with depressing the hardware key, the hardware key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value, the method comprising:

defining a first data zone that is actuated when the hardware key is depressed and at least one additional data zone corresponding to the at least one additional predetermined direction, the at least one additional data zone corresponding to an additional discrete data entry value;

generating a display that includes a user readable indication corresponding to the additional discrete data entry value, the user readable indication being indicative of the at least one additional predetermined direction;

wherein data corresponding to the additional discrete data entry value is generated when a user moves the hardware key in the predetermined direction.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, comprising:

performing a test to determine if the at least one additional data zone is capable of being effectively actuated; and

wherein an acceptable result produced by the test indicates that the at least one additional data zone is capable of being effectively actuated and an unacceptable result produced by the test indicates that the at least one additional data zone is not capable of being effectively actuated.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
selecting a different number of data zones if the test produces an unacceptable result;
and
repeating performing the user selection test.
24. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
selecting a different number of data zones if the test produces acceptable results; and
repeating performing the test.
25. (canceled).